

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Transportation Commission
From: Andreas Piller, Assistant Planner, Transportation Department
Date: October 16, 2014
Subject: Transportation Project Lists Consolidation

INTRODUCTION

Bellevue's [Comprehensive Plan](#) is undergoing a major update in 2014. As part of this update, the Transportation Department is reviewing and consolidating all transportation projects contained in Transportation Facility Plans and Subarea Plans. This effort will repeal completed or outdated projects, eliminate redundancies and conflicts that exist between the various plans, and clarify the intentions of the City in terms of the transportation projects it is considering for future investment. Projects that are retained will be consolidated into a single Comprehensive Transportation Project List, which will continue to be part of the Comprehensive Plan at this time.

On October 23, 2014, staff will review its preliminary recommendations with the Transportation Commission and seek input on potential adjustments to the recommended project dispositions.

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT LIST CONSOLIDATION

Process

Cumulatively, the six Transportation Facility Plans and the Bel-Red Subarea Plan contain 781 projects. Staff reviewed each project for this consolidation effort according to the methodology discussed at the February 13, 2014 Transportation Commission meeting, and assigned all projects to one of the six statuses (left) and seven recommended dispositions (right) identified in *Table 1* below.

Table 1

| Project Status | Recommended Project Disposition |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Complete | Remove |
| Partially Complete | Remove by Reference |
| Ongoing (Planning/Design/Construction) | Revise (Further Study) |
| Outdated | Revise |
| Deleted | Consolidate |
| Not Complete | Retain (No Change) |
| | Further Review |

Note that staff made two changes to the recommended project disposition categories as compared with those presented to the Commission in February. First, *Remove (Conditional)* has been eliminated and replaced by a new category, *Revise (Further Study)*. In general, projects that would have been assigned the earlier disposition will instead be assigned the new label. This adjustment in terminology reflects a desire to avoid prematurely removing projects from further consideration while

recognizing that certain decades-old projects require further study to confirm their continued applicability.

Second, a seventh category (*Remove by Reference*) has been added, which is used to distinguish projects that are removed because they are also located in other functional or modal plans that have been adopted or accepted by official act of the City Council (e.g. the [2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan](#)) from projects that are removed because they have been completed, are outdated, or are otherwise no longer appropriate to retain. This disposition applies primarily to projects characterized by the second category in the *Common Recommendations* section below.

The designation of project status and recommended disposition was accomplished primarily by cross-tabulating each project with:

- (1) other Transportation Facility Plan and Subarea Plan projects,
- (2) projects that have been adopted by the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP), or Capital Investment Program (CIP),
- (3) projects included in other functional/modal plans, such as the Eastgate/I-90 Land Use and Transportation Plan and the Bellevue Transit Master Plan, and
- (4) archived projects formerly listed on the city of Bellevue website.

When possible and beneficial to the consideration of a project's status, supplemental information was obtained from such sources as city of Bellevue webpages for recent or ongoing projects and Google Maps Street View imagery of the areas of interest.

Preliminary Results

Summary

As shown in *Table 2*, 108 of the 781 projects are identified as having been completed subsequent to adoption in Volume 2 of the Comprehensive Plan. Based on this preliminary staff recommendation, 188 projects would be removed outright from the Comprehensive Transportation Project List, and 429 projects would be removed from the Comprehensive Plan but retained in other city of Bellevue transportation planning documents. As a result, 164 projects would remain in the Comprehensive Transportation Project List adopted as part of the Comprehensive Plan barring any additional eliminations following further review and discussion with the Commission.

Table 2

| Project Status | # of Projects | Recommended Disposition | # of Projects |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Complete | 108 | Remove | 188 |
| Partially Complete | 86 | Remove by Reference | 429 |
| Ongoing | 34 | Revise (Further Study) | 26 |
| Outdated | 67 | Revise | 18 |
| Deleted | 4 | Consolidate | 98 |
| Not Complete | 471 | Retain (No Change) | 21 |
| Unknown or N/A | 11 | Further Review | 1 |

Note: Project maps will be provided at the Transportation Commission meeting on October 23, 2014.

Common Recommendations

Although the preliminary recommended dispositions of many projects were determined on a case-by-case basis, reflecting consideration of each project's status and its relationship to other similar projects, three general rules were applied to entire subsets of projects as follows:

- 1.) **Operational intersection projects** — Projects like turn lanes and re-channelization of approach lanes were universally assigned the disposition *Revise (Further Study)*, and their project descriptions were amended to add language indicating that the potential need for and adequacy of the solution defined by the project should be studied prior to implementing the project as described. The only exceptions to this universal disposition assignment were those operational intersection projects that had already been completed or outdated by more recent projects, in which case the disposition assigned is *Remove*.
- 2.) **Pedestrian/bicycle projects from the 2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan** — All projects in the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Facility Plan](#) are redundant to the [2009 Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan](#), adopted by Ordinance No. 5861 in February of 2009. The five-year update of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan will commence later in 2014, and the result of that effort will likely be the addition, subtraction, and/or modification of various projects contained in that plan.

In order to avoid duplicating this consolidation effort following the completion of the Ped-Bike Plan Update, which would require undertaking a formal Comprehensive Plan amendment process, all projects derived from the 2009 Ped-Bike Plan are assigned the disposition *Remove by Reference*. This does not imply that the projects have been completed, are outdated, or should otherwise no longer be considered part of the City's transportation vision—it simply means that these projects will reside only in their exclusive modal plan.

- 3.) **Pedestrian and bicycle projects from other Transportation Facility Plans and Subarea Plans** — All pedestrian and bicycle projects that are currently included in other Transportation Facility Plans and Subarea Plans (i.e. not in the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Facility Plan](#)) were adopted prior to the completion of the 2009 Ped-Bike Plan. The latter planning effort represented a comprehensive assessment of the city's projected future pedestrian and bicycle facility needs, so any ped/bike projects from older plans that were not included in the 2009 Ped-Bike Plan have been assigned the status *Outdated* (or *Complete*, if applicable) and the disposition *Remove*. This effectively means that virtually all non-motorized transportation projects are excluded from the Comprehensive Transportation Project List resulting from this effort.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will review the Comprehensive Transportation Project List with the Commission and finalize the project list for adoption in the updated Comprehensive Plan. In the longer term, the Transportation Commission and staff have expressed an interest in moving away from the current format of including transportation facility plans in the Comprehensive Plan. Instead, a comprehensive Transportation Master Plan will ultimately be prepared separate from but referenced in the Comprehensive Plan.

Note: Project maps will be provided at the Transportation Commission meeting on October 23, 2014.